

Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program Funded Projects - 2001



A condition assessment has been prepared, and restoration work is being implemented for the Rialto Theater in Winslow, Arizona.

Arizona

Project: Rialto Theatre Rehabilitation
Recipient: Arizona State Historic Preservation Office
Amount: \$50,000 NPS, \$50,000 match

The Arizona State Historic Preservation Office in partnership with the City of Winslow, Arizona, received cost-share funds to prepare a condition assessment report, and to rehabilitate portions of the historic Rialto Theatre in downtown Winslow, Arizona. Rehabilitation included roof, façade, entryway, structural, and interior repairs. The Rialto Theatre was built in 1920 for performing arts and vaudeville acts, before it was converted to a cinema. It has been closed since 1966. Since rehabilitation, the theater has re-opened for business as the only first-run theater within a 60-mile radius of Winslow.



A Historic Structures Report will be prepared and restoration work will be implemented for the Aztec Hotel in Monrovia, California.

California

Project: Aztec Hotel Rehabilitation
Recipient: California Office of Historic Preservation
Amount: \$50,000 NPS, \$50,000 match

The California Office of Historic Preservation in partnership with the City of Monrovia, California, received cost-share funds to prepare a Historic Structure Report, and to implement rehabilitation work at the historic Aztec Hotel in Monrovia, California. Restoration work will include the installation of original-style wood doors, exterior re-stucco and painting, and electrical and plumbing upgrades. The Aztec was built in 1924-1925 in a Mayan Revival style to encourage travelers along Route 66 to stay in Monrovia. It was constructed as a lavish hotel located in the Los Angeles foothills, and has recently been acquired by a property owner who has already made tremendous progress toward its resurrection as a destination spot along Route 66.



The restoration of the Odell Standard Oil Gas Station has been completed.

Illinois

Project: Odell Standard Oil Gas Station Restoration
Recipient: Illinois State Historic Preservation Agency
Amount: \$7,500 NPS, \$7,500 match

The Illinois State Historic Preservation Agency in partnership with the Village of Odell, Illinois, received cost-share funds to complete the restoration of the Standard Oil Gasoline Station in Odell, Illinois. Original windows and bay doors were restored, the metal roof over the service bays was painted, and an electrical system and HVAC system were installed. The building possesses architectural significance as a good example of the "house with canopy" style gas station, with added bays. The gas station is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and is located on the 1926 Route 66 alignment in the Village of Odell. The restored station serves as tourist attraction thanks to the assistance of Village of Odell and the Illinois Route 66 Association.

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A survey of Kansas Route 66 properties, such as the Rainbow Marsh Bridge in Baxter Springs, has been completed, and National Register nominations have been prepared for select properties.

Kansas

Project: Kansas Route 66 Inventory Survey
Recipient: Kansas State Historical Society
Amount: \$15,000 NPS

The Kansas State Historical Society received grant funds to conduct a comprehensive inventory survey of historic properties associated with Route 66 through Kansas, including buildings, ruins, archeological sites, bridges, and road alignments. The project included the preparation of National Register of Historic Places nominations for select properties, which makes those properties potentially eligible for rehabilitation tax credits and other preservation incentives. A historic context statement for Route 66 properties in Kansas was also developed, which will facilitate the nomination of other eligible properties to the National Register of Historic Places in the future.



A survey of Missouri Route 66 properties, including the Cedar Inn Restaurant in Pacific, was completed, and National Register nominations were prepared for select properties.

Missouri

Project: Missouri Route 66 Inventory Survey
Recipient: Missouri State Historic Preservation Program
Amount: \$70,000 NPS

The Missouri State Historic Preservation Program received funds to complete an inventory survey of extant historic properties associated with Route 66 in Missouri. A historic context statement for Route 66 properties in Missouri was also developed. The project included the preparation of National Register of Historic Places nominations for select properties including the Big Chief Hotel and Cabins in Wildwood; the 66 Drive-In Theatre Historic District in Carthage; the Rock Fountain Court Historic District in Springfield; the Wagon Wheel Historic District in Cuba; and the Red Cedar Inn in Pacific. National Register status makes these properties potentially eligible for rehabilitation tax credits and other preservation incentives.



An inventory survey of properties associated with Route 66 in New Mexico was completed, and National Register nominations were prepared for select properties such as La Bajada, the 1920s road segment south of Santa Fe.

New Mexico

Project: New Mexico Route 66 Inventory Survey
Recipient: New Mexico State Historic Preservation Division
Amount: \$12,000 NPS

The New Mexico State Historic Preservation Division received grant funds to update and complete an inventory survey of existing properties associated with Route 66 in New Mexico. The project also included the preparation of National Register nominations for the 1920s La Bajada road segment south of Santa Fe; Sam's Tire and Lube Shop in Los Lunas; and a multiple property listing for historic neon signs on New Mexico Route 66.

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Ten New Mexico Route 66 neon signs have been restored to working condition (photo courtesy New Mexico Route 66 Association).



Sign ordinances and other policies have been studied in towns along Route 66 through New Mexico to determine whether or not maintenance and preservation objectives for historic signs are being met.



Color brochures will educate the general public about the historical importance and continued use of the Nob Hill Business District on Route 66 in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

New Mexico (continued)

Project: New Mexico Neon Sign Restoration
Recipient: New Mexico State Historic Preservation Division
Amount: \$50,000 NPS, \$50,000 match

The New Mexico State Historic Preservation Division in cooperation with the New Mexico Route 66 Association received cost-share funds to restore and make operable 10 historic signs in several towns along Route 66 in New Mexico. The restored signs include the Teepee Curios, La Cita Restaurant, and Paradise Motel in Tucumcari; the Sun n' Sand in Santa Rosa; El Comedor de Anayas Restaurant in Moriarty; the Aztec Motel, the El Rey Theatre, and the Westward Ho Motel in Albuquerque; the Grants Café, and the Uranium Café in Grants; and the Lexington Hotel in Gallup.

Project: New Mexico Model Historic Sign Ordinance Development
Recipient: New Mexico Preservation Heritage Alliance
Amount: \$14,000 NPS, \$7,000 match

The New Mexico Preservation Heritage Alliance completed a study project of sign ordinances and other policies along Route 66 in New Mexico to evaluate whether or not maintenance and preservation objectives for historic signs are being met. A model historic sign ordinance was prepared, and has been shared with other organizations in the eight states through which Route 66 passes.

Project: Nob Hill Business District Preservation Brochure
Recipient: Nob Hill Highland Renaissance Corporation
Amount: \$10,000 NPS, \$3,700 match

The Nob Hill Highland Renaissance Corporation received grant funds to produce color brochures to describe for the general public the historical importance and continued use of the Nob Hill Business District in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The preservation of Route 66 era businesses and architecture in the Nob Hill Business District are stressed in the brochures.

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Documentation of Route 66 roadbeds will enable preservationists to work with the Department of Transportation to preserve the historic fabric and context of the road while meeting modern safety requirements.

Oklahoma

Project: Oklahoma Route 66 Inventory Survey and Roadbed Documentation
Recipient: Oklahoma Historical Society
Amount: \$77,000 NPS

The Oklahoma Historical Society received grant funds to update and expand an inventory survey of extant historic properties associated with Route 66 in Oklahoma. The project included the preparation of National Register of Historic Places nominations for select properties, and the development of a historic context statement. The Oklahoma Historical Society also received funds to document and map extant Route 66 roadbeds, and to develop priorities and methodologies for the management and treatment of those historic roadbed segments in partnership with the Oklahoma Department of Transportation.



The Rock Café has been rehabilitated, including the neon sign, masonry, windows, and interior floors.

Project: Rock Café Rehabilitation
Recipient: Oklahoma Historical Society
Amount: \$34,445 NPS, \$34,445 match

The Oklahoma Historical Society, through a sub-grant, awarded \$34,445 to the Rock Café in Stroud, Oklahoma. The funds provided assistance in the rehabilitation of the cafe, including the neon sign, masonry, windows, and interior floors. Three interior and exterior doorways were restored to their original location, and new fire-suppression, gas supply, electrical, and HVAC systems were installed. The cafe was built in 1939 from rock quarried during the construction of Route 66 in Stroud. The cafe, which is open for business, was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2001.



A survey of properties including the U-Drop Inn Café has been completed to create a baseline inventory of Route 66 resources in Texas.

Texas

Project: Texas Route 66 Inventory Survey
Recipient: Friends of the Texas Historical Commission
Amount: \$22,700 NPS

The Friends of the Texas Historical Commission received grant funds to conduct a comprehensive inventory survey of historic properties and road segments associated with Route 66 in Texas. The project identified and mapped the location of all Route 66 road alignments; identified and photographed existing Route 66 properties; and produced a statewide historic context statement, including the identification of properties and districts potentially eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.